

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/014022

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1, 3-8 as originally filed/furnished
- pages* 2, 2a received by this Authority on 12.07.2005 with telefax
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1-8 received by this Authority on 01.02.2006 with letter of 30.01.2006
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets 1/3-3/3 as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1.	Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-8</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-8</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-8</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
2.	Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
1.	This report makes reference to the following document:		
	D1: GB-A-1 424 704 (FRANCAISE DU FERODO SA) 11 February 1976 (1976-02-11)		
2.	D1, which is considered to be the closest prior art, discloses (see figure 3) a hydrodynamic coupling from which the subject matter of claim 1 differs in that		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the channels are provided in the drive shaft, - the at least one supply channel and the at least one evacuation channel extend at least across a predetermined section in the axial direction in the drive shaft, the at least one evacuation channel being situated on a larger perimeter in relation to the at least one supply channel, and - the supply channel is in the form of a central working medium channel on the longitudinal axis of 		

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	<p>the drive shaft from the axial end of the drive shaft, which is remote from the working chamber, up to at least approximately the other end of the drive shaft and is surrounded by a plurality of evacuation channels which are situated radially outside thereof.</p> <p>3. The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).</p> <p>4. The problem to be solved by the present invention can therefore be regarded as that of providing better and simpler sealing between the supplying and evacuation of medium.</p> <p>4.1. The solution proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step for the following reasons (PCT Article 33(3)):</p> <p>sealing between the channels can be carried out in an especially simple manner owing to the fact that only one seal is necessary for all the channels.</p> <p>5. Claims 2 to 8 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.</p>